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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1937.




PATRICK J. WEBB, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

FAILSWORTH:

J. B. Fielding, Printer, Canal Bridge.



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Urban District Council of Failsworth.

Health Committee, 1937-38 :

Councillor P. RILEY, Chairman.

Councillor H. CROSSLEY.

Councillor H. DEWHURST.

Councillor T. GARLICK.

Councillor J. HIBBERT.

Councillor T. HILTON.

Councillor R. A. JARVIS.

Councillor H. McANULTY.

Councillor J. STANHOPE.

Councillor R. STOTT, J.P.

Councillor G. F. WILSON.

Councillor F. YARWOOD.

Medical Officer of Health :

P. J. WEBB, M.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

JAMES A. JAMES, Cert. R.S.I.,

Cert. of Meat and other Foods, R.S.I., Cert.
San. Insp. Assn. Exam. Board (whole time).

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

JACK BUCKLEY, Cert. S.I.B.

Clerk in Public Health Department :

DENNIS HOWELLS.

URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Failsworth Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my Annual Report, as per Article 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Section 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926, for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

With regard to the Vital Statistics, 19 deaths under one year of age have been recorded, which gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 69 per 1,000 births. The rate for the year 1936 was 49.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—Speaking generally, Infectious Disease in this district has been low. The notifications of the principal zymotic diseases are steadily decreasing year by year. As a comparison, 171 notifications of Infectious Disease were received in 1927; in the year under review 147 notifications have been received. This is exclusive of Tuberculosis. Two cases of Smallpox have been notified during the year, particulars of which appear later in this report.

There has been an increase in the General Death Rate of 1.9 on the preceding year's figures; the figures being :—1936, 10.8, as against 12.7 for 1937.

There has been an increase of two deaths from Cancer as compared with last year, the number for 1936 being 28, whilst this year the number was 30.

It is to be sincerely hoped that in the near future, by means of research and other work, the Death Rate from this disease will be materially reduced.

There has been an increase in the Birth Rate as compared with last year, the rate for 1936 being 14.3, whilst this year the rate was 15.6.

There has been one death from Puerperal causes during the year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of 3.52 per 1,000 Live and Still Births.

HOUSING.—The erection of new houses in Failsworth has been increasing year by year. During the year under review, one hundred and seventy-six houses have been erected, including twenty-four erected by the Council for the re-housing of displaced persons from Clearance

Areas, situate as follows :—Brompton Avenue, 8; Wimbledon Road, 2; Roman Road, 8; Links Avenue, 13; Stansfield Road, 14; Newton Road, 7; Dalston Avenue, 21; Massey Avenue, 30; Ward Street, 4; Parkside Avenue, 11; Dean Street, 20; Kew Road, 2; Mersey Road, 4; Woodford Road, 12; Mather Street, 10; Tatchbury Road, 2; Maple Grove, 2.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year under review, twelve Clearance Orders, embracing sixty-one dwelling-houses have been confirmed by the Ministry of Health; these, along with the seven Clearance Orders comprising seventy-eight dwelling-houses which were confirmed in the years 1935 and 1936, make a total of nineteen Clearance Orders, comprising one hundred and thirty-nine houses, which have been confirmed. In addition to the houses mentioned, there are two houses in respect of which action is necessary, remaining to be dealt with as individual houses.

Twenty-four displaced families have been re-housed on the Dean Street site during the year, and a further fifty-four houses are in course of erection on the Dean Street and Wrigley Head sites for re-housing the families displaced under Clearance Orders numbers 5, 6 and 7.

OVERCROWDING.

Since making the overcrowding survey under the Housing Act, 1935, sixty cases of overcrowding have been abated by reason of the following :—

Family reasons	31
Removed to other houses in the District	15
Removed to houses outside the District.....	6
Accommodation increased	2
Removed to Council houses	6

The number of houses overcrowded at the end of the year was 53, and the number of persons dwelling therein was 373.

It is gratifying to be able to report such a satisfactory reduction in the amount of overcrowding in the District, the existing cases being no doubt largely due to the inability to pay high rents.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to the Health Committee, Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector and other officials for their valuable assistance and practical help given throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

PATRICK J. WEBB,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

POPULATION.

The estimated population at the 30th June, 1937, was 17,370. This figure, provided by the Registrar-General, is based on the 1937 mid-year estimate of population, after allowing for the varying rates of natural increase as evidenced by the births and deaths, migration, returns, etc.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Failsworth is a compact Urban District of 1072 acres, of which 9 acres are covered with water, and is situated between the City of Manchester on the south-west, and the County Borough of Oldham on the north-east. It forms a connecting link between the two places, the houses in the district being contiguous with both city and town. Its lateral boundaries on the north-west again include the City of Manchester and also the Chadderton Urban District, and on the south-east the Limehurst Rural and Droylsden Urban Districts.

There is a gradual rise from 286 feet above sea level at the Manchester extremity to 354 feet above sea level at the Oldham extremity.

The district is divided into two Wards—the Lower near Manchester, and Higher nearer Oldham. This division is effected by the Rochdale Canal, which passes through the district.

The London, Midland and Scottish Railway passes through the district, there being one passenger station. A double line of tramways runs along Oldham Road, a good service of cars being run to Manchester and Oldham. There is also a good service of buses which run through the district, and connects up with Oldham and Manchester. The tramways are leased to the Manchester Corporation for a term of 21 years, as from the 1st April, 1924, the yearly rental being £330. Water traffic is also carried on by means of the Rochdale Canal, and the Hollinwood branch of the Great Central Railway Company's Canal.

The sub-soil is chiefly clay, with sand and gravel in places over-lying the coal measures.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC.

The district is entirely industrial, the staple industry being cotton spinning and manufacturing.

Other industries comprise aeroplane works, ironworks, electrical and engineering works, rubber works, ebonite works, felt hat-making, rubber proofing, oil refining works, brickworks, laundries, a chemical works, and building trades.

There are no collieries situated in the district, but a large area is undermined by workings of adjacent collieries. A number of miners reside in the district.

During the last five years the amount of Poor Law Relief granted in the Township was :—1933, £3,774 18s. 6d. ; 1934, £4,047 1s. 0d. ; 1935, £5,250 16s. 6d. ; 1936, £5,720 3s. 10d. ; 1937, £5,427 15s. 10d.

No gratuitous medical relief, beyond the Poor Relief, is instituted in the district.

A public mortuary is erected in the yard at the rear of the Council Offices.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres).....	1072
Population (Census 1931).....	15724
No. of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	3883
No. of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books ...	5269
No. of Families or Separate Occupiers (Census 1931)...	4077
Rateable Value	£77,845
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (Estimated) ...	£289

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births—				
Legitimate... 262 ... 136 ... 126 }				Birth Rate per 1000..... 15.6
Illegitimate.. 10 ... 3 ... 7 }				
<hr/> Total... 272 ... 139 ... 133				
Still Births 12 ... 7 ... 5—Rate per 1000				Total Births.. 42
Deaths..... 222 ... 105 ... 117—Crude Death Rate per 1000				12.7
Comparable Death Rate ...	15.3.			

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes	1	—
Total	1	3.52

Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live Births :—

All Infants, 69 ; Legitimate, 57 ; Illegitimate, 400.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
„ Whooping Cough (all ages).....	—
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age).....	4
„ Cancer (all ages).....	30

Population, 17,370.

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 Year per 1000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Mean of 5 Years							
1932-1936 ...	13.3 ...	11.5 ...	0.69 ...	1.38 ...	5.03 ...	4.77 ...	59
1936 ...	14.3 ...	10.8 ...	0.35 ...	1.64 ...	8.23 ...	7.78 ...	49
1937 ...	15.6 ...	*12.7 ...	0.57 ...	1.72 ...	3.67 ...	3.52 ...	69

Increase or decrease in
1937 on 5 years' average,

1932-1936 ...	+2.3 ...	+1.2 ...	-0.12 ...	+0.34 ...	-1.36 ...	-1.25 ...	+10
Previous year	+1.3 ...	+1.9 ...	+0.22 ...	+0.08 ...	-4.56 ...	-4.26 ...	+20

* 1937 adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor 1.21) = 15.3 per 1,000.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(1) **TUBERCULOSIS.**—The Lancashire County Council maintain various Sanatoria, to which cases of tuberculosis from this district are sent.

(2) **MATERNITY.**—Occasionally difficult maternity cases are treated at St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, the Local Authority subscribing annually to this Institution.

(3) **CHILDREN.**—The various Manchester Hospitals are utilised by parents in this district for treatment of children, these hospitals being also supported by the subscriptions of the Local Authority.

(4) **FEVER.**—Accommodation provided at Westhulme Hospital, Oldham, by agreement with the Oldham Corporation. When Westhulme Hospital has been full, Manchester and Ashton-under-Lyne Corporations have, whenever possible, obliged us by taking our cases.

There has been no action taken to shorten the period of stay in hospital of uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever, but where efficient isolation and supervision can be obtained the patient is allowed to be nursed at home.

(5) **SMALLPOX.**—Two beds are retained at the Hartshead Hospital, Mossley, belonging to the Chadderton, Royton, and Crompton Joint Hospital Board.

(6) **PUERPERAL FEVER.**—Accommodation provided at Monsall Hospital, Manchester, by agreement with the Manchester Corporation.

(7) **CANCER.**—Patients, on recommendation, are admitted to the Christie Cancer Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Wilmslow Road, Withington.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General. In cases of general sickness two nurses of the Fails-worth and New Moston Sick Nursing Association are available, and visits are made upon the written request of a medical practitioner. No arrangement is made by the Local Authority with the Nursing Association.

(b) For Infectious Diseases, &c.—There are no arrangements for the supply of professional nurses in cases of infectious disease. Where efficient isolation can be obtained in cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria, the patient is nursed at home by the mother or some other member of the family. In cases where such conditions do not obtain, the patients are removed to hospital and treated at the expense of the Local Authority.

The County Authorities maintain one nurse for duties in connection with their tuberculosis scheme.

MIDWIVES.

No midwife is employed or subsidised by the Local Authority. There are two midwives on the Register, and both are actually practising.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious Cases.—All cases of infectious disease, excepting smallpox, are removed by the Oldham Corporation. Smallpox cases are taken to hospital by the ambulance belonging to the Chadderton, Royton, and Crompton Joint Hospital Board.

(b) Non-infectious and Accident Cases.—Arrangements have been made with the Town Council of the County Borough of Oldham for a Motor Ambulance Service, available day and night, for the removal of cases of accident occurring within the Failsworth District, and also of patients residing in the District, to Hospitals, Infirmarys, and Nursing Homes, etc.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Clinic and Treatment Centre for this district is under the control of the Lancashire County Council, who have taken over Firs Hall, a large building centrally situated and standing in its own grounds, which has been converted into an up-to-date Clinic and Treatment Centre, and has been found to be eminently suitable for the work required to be carried on there.

BYE-LAWS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

BYE-LAWS.						Came into force.
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	13th March, 1900
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	13th March, 1900
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	20th March, 1900
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	...	...	26th March, 1900
New streets and Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	9th December, 1926
Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures	...	...	...	...	...	15th August, 1928
Smoke Bye-laws	...	...	...	...	...	14th March, 1929

REGULATIONS with respect to :—

Drains and Sewers, etc., 3rd November, 1898.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops, 1st February, 1898.

Cemetery Regulations and Charges, 10th April, 1919.

ACTS.

The undermentioned Adoptive Acts are in force in the district :—

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890—

Part III., adopted 1st April, 1896 ; came into force 1st June, 1896.

Part IV., adopted 13th June, 1912 ; came into force 1st August, 1912.

The Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890. Adopted 7th December, 1899 ; came into force 1st February, 1900.

The Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1893. Adopted 13th October, 1903 ; came into force 1st December, 1903.

The Private Street Works Act, 1892. Adopted 12th February, 1907 ; came into force 1st April, 1907.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Section 86, came into force 31st December, 1912.

Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, *30, 31, 32 and 33, comprised in Part II.

Sections 53 and 54, comprised in Part IV.

Section 95, comprised in Part X.

All the above came into force 21st March, 1913.

* Section 30 is subject to certain conditions and adaptations.

Sections 76 and 77 comprised in Part VI. Came into force 18th July, 1922.

The Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846 to 1899. Adopted 8th February, 1912.

Order under Section 51 of Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Declaring certain Trades to be Offensive Trades. Confirming Order made 24th November, 1913.

The Public Health Act, 1925—

Part II., adopted 14th April, 1926 ; came into force 1st June, 1926, with exceptions, viz. :—Sections 21 and 22.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district obtains its water supply mainly from the Oldham Corporation, which is obtained from moorland gathering grounds, and is procured within ten miles of the district. No cases of lead poisoning have occurred. The water supply is good in quality and sufficient in quantity.

Some 27 houses in the outlying parts of the district, and situate as follows :—Green Lane (11), Hyde Street (1), Wrigley Head Bridge (3), Millhouses (12); together with the Sewage Works, Green Lane; Clayton Bridge Dyeing and Finishing Company's Works, Clayton Bridge; and one Poultry Run, situate in Stott's Lane, are supplied by the Manchester Corporation, with the consent of the Oldham Corporation.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Medlock adjoins the Sewage Works, and receives the sewage effluent. It flows along the south-east border of the district. The sewage effluent has satisfied the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee. On the opposite boundary of the district is the Moston Brook, which flows into the river Irk. No complaints have been made of this brook during the year. A smaller brook, named Lord's Brook, flows into the Medlock, and another small stream occurs near the Cemetery.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

New sewers have been provided as follows during 1937 :—

Wrigley Head	117	lin. yards	9in.	earthenware	pipes.
Clifton Street	40	„	9in.	„	„
Parkside Avenue	73	„	9in.	„	„
Woodford Road.....	140	„	9in.	„	„
Ashworth Street.....	54	„	9in.	„	„
Devonshire Street	67	„	9in.	„	„
Miriam Street.....	52	„	9in.	„	„

Seven yard drains and one cellar drain have been entirely reconstructed to the sewer during the year.

The smoke or water test is applied to all drains before being covered in.

The sewers in the district are partly brick and partly pipe. Most of the storm water finds its way into the sewers. They are periodically flushed by water-carts, and are ventilated by open manholes and gratings. House drains are well trapped, and soil pipes are properly ventilated. The sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Works.

TREATMENT OF SEWAGE AT DISPOSAL WORKS.—The dry-weather flow of sewage is approximately 740,000 gallons per day. The sewage enters the works through a cast-iron pipe, 3 feet in diameter, and passes over a water-wheel, which breaks up the solids, and at the same time works a lime mixer. The crude sewage is treated with lime and ferrous sulphate and passes through two detritus tanks, on through six upward flow tanks to two settling tanks, after which it flows into twelve sprinkler filters, the effluent being subjected to humus tanks and strainer filters before being discharged into the river Medlock.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Particulars of this will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

This work was carried out by the Council's own manual and team labour, with the exception of a number of houses at the extreme end of the Lower Ward, for which a hired team was engaged. Arrangements have now been made for the Council's Mechanical Freighter, along with a horse team and an extra team for part of the week, to scavenge the whole of the district.

The nightsoil from the pail closets is passed down the chute at Shaw Head Farm direct into the sewer.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Particulars of these will be found in the Inspector's Report.

SCHOOLS.

There are five elementary day schools in the district—Mather Street Council School, Minor Street Council School, St. John's School and Holy Trinity School (both National), and St. Mary's (Roman Catholic). The Schools are supplied with town's water, and are provided with closets on the water-carriage system.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

These consist of two tripe boiling premises. Both have been in existence a considerable time. No complaints were received, and the businesses are carried on so as to be free from nuisance.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

At the end of December, 1937, the number of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., was 21, the number occupied being 14.

Periodical inspections were made during the year to ensure compliance with Byelaws made by this Council in 1928, and no nuisances were found to exist.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

I.- Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces, Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries) .....	...	...	...
Workshop (including Workshop Laundries) ..	92	1	...
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this report).....	...	...	...
Total.....	92	1	...

II.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Remedied	Referr'd to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	1	1	...	...
Want of Ventilation .....	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding .....	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors .....	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances.....	15	15	...	...
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	1	1	...
	unsuitable or defective .....	...	...	...
	not separate for sexes.....	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)...	...	...	...	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) .....	...	...	...	...
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) .....	...	...	...	...
Total.....	17	17	...	...

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

III.—Home Work.

NATURE OF WORK.	Outworkers Lists.					
	Sending twice in the year.			Sending once in the year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Con-tractors.	Work-men.		Con-tractors.	Work-men.
Wearing Apparel, Making (Hat Trimming)
Total

IV.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	24
Shoemakers and Cloggers	15
Milliners	6
Tailors	3
Hand Laundries	1
Shoeing Smith.....	1
Joiners	5
General	23
Total number of Workshops on Register.....	78

V.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.....	<div> <div>Notified by H.M. Inspector</div> <div>Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector on Completion.</div> </div> <div>..</div> <div>...</div>
Underground Bakehouses— In use at the end of the year	None

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1937.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b) ...	176
(i) By the Local Authority.....	24
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other bodies and persons.....	152
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority.....	24
(ii) By other bodies or persons	Nil

I—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	672
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1610
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	132
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	352
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	117

(iv) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	302
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2—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	218
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3—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs.....	34
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	3

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	370
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	271
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	99

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	Nil
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....	Nil

4—HOUSING ACT, 1936. OVERCROWDING.

A.	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	53
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	53
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein.....	373
B.		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
C.	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	60
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases.....	430

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A comparison of the number of Infectious Disease Notifications in the years from 1927 to the present date shows a remarkable decline. In the year 1927, 215 notifications of infectious disease were received by this department, namely :—Scarlet Fever, 20 ; Diphtheria, 37 ; Enteric Fever, 4 ; Pneumonia, 81 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 6 ; Encephalitis Lethargica, 5 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 5 ; Erysipelas, 11 ; Tuberculosis, 44 ; Malaria, 2. Compare these figures with the 171 notifications received during 1937 :—Smallpox, 2 ; Scarlet Fever, 62 ; Diphtheria, 31 ; Pneumonia, 35 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 4 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 2 ; Erysipelas, 9 ; Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 2 ; Tuberculosis, 24.

No cases of Malaria or Dysentery were notified.

To my mind, the improvement in the sanitation throughout the District has played an important part in the reduction of infectious disease.

SPECIAL REPORT.

SMALLPOX - 10, BOOTH STREET, FAILSWORTH.

Names of Patients :—

No. 1.—Mary Willans, age 62 years. (Vaccinated in infancy, but not since). Engaged in house duties only. Removed to Hartshead Smallpox Hospital, 11th January, 1937. Details :—Commencement of illness, 3rd January, 1937, with headache and pains in back. Rash—6th January, 1937. Notified—11th January, 1937.

No. 2.—Sarah Ann Holt (Single), age 72 years. (Vaccinated in infancy and on the night of the 11th January, 1937). Engaged in house duties only. Removed to Hartshead Smallpox Hospital, 13th January, 1937. Details :—Commencement of illness, 21st—23rd December, 1936 (indefinite). Fading rash on face and forearms, 12th January, 1937, and on the feet when patient was examined in the Hospital, 13th January, 1937.

Both of the above patients reside at No. 10, Booth Street, Failsworth. No 1 patient notified by Doctors Poston and Taylor, "Thorncliffe," Oldham Road, Failsworth. No 2 patient notified by Dr. G. V. Ashcroft, The School Clinic, Oldham Road, Failsworth.

A Special Report, along with the necessary Certificate, was despatched to both the Ministry of Health and the County Medical Officer of Health, after having communicated with the County Medical Officer of Health by telephone.

I was also communicated with by telephone immediately, at the request of the visiting practitioners, Doctors Poston and Taylor, in order that I might verify the notification sent on 11th January, 1937, and marked "query" but, unfortunately, I was stricken down with Influenza.

The County Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Hall) sent down Dr. G. G. Wray, one of his Medical Officers, to examine the patient, Mrs. Willans; Dr. Wray diagnosed same as a definite case of Smallpox.

The patient was removed at once (11th January, 1937) to the Smallpox Hospital, Hartshead, Mossley, belonging to the Ashton-u-Lyne and District Joint Hospital Board.

Particulars of the Second Case :—

Miss Sarah Ann Holt, when visited on the 11th instant, did not give us any information regarding any recent illness in the house, other than that of her sister, Mrs. Willans, and it was only after thorough investigation and questioning of William Paden (one of the lodgers) that we discovered that Miss Holt had been ill and had had the symptoms of Smallpox, traces of which were apparent on her face and forearms; and when removed to Hospital on the 13th instant and a thorough examination was made by Dr. Shaw, of the Ministry of Health; Dr. Phillips, Medical Officer of Health of Ashton; Dr. Ward, Deputy Medical Officer of Health for Oldham; and Dr. Ashcroft, County Medical Officer, it was found that Miss Holt had been properly removed as a definite case of Smallpox.

Source of Infection.

The question had arisen all along as to where did Mrs. Willans and Miss Holt get the Smallpox from; and we found, after careful investigation, that Miss Holt had been visiting four Oldham cases, who were relatives, all of the same name and residing at 24, Fletcher Street, Oldham, and 18, Morton Street, Oldham; the four cases being removed on the 28th November, 3rd December and 11th December, 1936.

The bedding and all clothing, curtains, etc., were removed to the Steam Disinfector at Oldham on the 11th and 13th instant.

All contacts in the house were re-vaccinated by the Public Vaccinator (Dr. E. Barnes) on the evening of the 11th January, 1937; the staff of the Public Health Department on the morning of the 13th instant; and the Doctors in attendance on the 14th instant.

After the bedding was removed and the walls stripped of paper, the necessary spraying and fumigation was carried out.

All contacts were visited and examined every day (including Sundays) by Doctors Ashcroft and Stocks (County Medical Officers), Mr. Keeley (County Sanitary Inspector) and Mr. James (Sanitary Inspector to my Council), until all danger was over.

All the Medical Officers of the Districts adjoining Failsworth and the Medical Practitioners in Failsworth were notified in order that they might be on the *qui vive* against any outbreak in Failsworth or in the Districts adjoining.

DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN.—A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin is provided by the Council, free of charge, for the treatment of residents in Failsworth. This being kept at the Health Department, Town Hall; 368,000 units were supplied to medical practitioners during 1937.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Number of specimens examined in 1937 (1) by Public Health Laboratory, Manchester :—

Sputum 5.	Diphtheria 55.	Typhoid 2.
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(2) By Dr. G. Fletcher, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for the Area :—

Sputum 45.	Positive 10.	Negative 35.
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ACTION TAKEN IN REGARD TO (a) CONTACTS, (b) RETURN CASES, (c) CARRIER CASES.

(a) All contacts kept from school until two weeks after house and bedding have been disinfected; notice is sent to the head teacher, and necessary instructions given as to exclusion, etc. (b) nil. (c) nil.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALLPOX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

Number of vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health :

(a) Primary, Nil.	(b) Re-vaccination, Nil.
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METHODS OF DEALING WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

On receipt of a notification the house is visited by the Sanitary Inspector, and particulars as to character of house, number of occupants, schools attended by children, milk supply, etc., are obtained, and any possible source of infection is thoroughly investigated. If school children are concerned, the headmaster of the school attended is at once notified, and children from the house are not allowed to attend school. The laundries in the locality are notified of all cases of infectious disease. Isolation of the patient is insisted upon, and if this cannot be satisfactorily carried out at home, arrangements have been made whereby the patient is removed to the Westhulme Isolation Hospital, Oldham.

Printed instructions as to methods of isolation, etc., are left at the house. Izal fluid and soap are supplied free of charge. Houses where cases are being treated at home are kept under observation by the Sanitary Inspector, and during the year 209 visits were paid to such houses.

As soon as the patient is certified as being no longer infectious, the infected room or rooms are fumigated with formaldehyde vapour, and the walls sprayed with formalin. Bedding is removed for disinfection by steam in the Oldham Corporation Disinfector.

Any nuisances and defects at infected houses are noted and dealt with

In cases of enteric fever, special sanitary receptacles are provided, and the contents disposed of by the sanitary authority.

During the year, 108 houses have been disinfected, and articles of clothing, bedding, etc., have been disinfected in the steam disinfector belonging to the Oldham Corporation.

The following schools in the district were disinfected, namely:—Mather Street Council School, Holy Trinity School, St. Mary's School, and St. John's School. Mather Street Council School was closed for two days on account of the prevalence of infectious disease, and was again disinfected.

There is no steam disinfector in the district, the disinfection of all clothing being carried out by the Oldham Corporation.

No facilities exist in the district for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1937.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													HOSPITAL.		
	Total Cases at all Ages	AT AGES—YEARS.											Total Deaths.	Total Cases remov'd to Hospit'l	Deaths in Hospit'l of persons belong- ing to district	
		Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.				65 and over.
Smallpox	2	1	1	...	2	...
Scarlet fever	62	...	4	3	7	4	28	10	1	3	1	1	...	31	...	
Diphtheria & Membranous croup	31	...	...	3	...	2	14	8	1	1	2	...	...	18	...
Enteric fever (incl'g Paratyphoid). .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.....	35	3	3	3	...	1	6	4	1	7	1	6	...	...	1
Puerperal fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	3	...
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	3	1	...	1
Malaria—Contracted in this Country.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " Abroad.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	147	5	7	9	7	7	49	22	3	17	7	12	2	57	3	

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age -Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0—1 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 .....	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...
5—10.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
10—15 .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20.....	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
20—25.....	...	2	1	1	...	1	1	...
25—35.....	1	3	...	...	1	1	...	...
35—45.....	1	...	...	2	1	1	...	...
45—55.....	2	...	1	...	2	...	1	...
55—65.....	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1
65 and upwards...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	5	8	5	6	4	4	3	1
	13		11		8		4	

The notification of tuberculosis in this district is quite efficient, and no action has been necessary in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

No action has been necessary relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade, nor for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from the disease.

The duties of tuberculosis visitation are carried out by the staff of the County Council. Paper handkerchiefs and cardboard sputum cups are kept in the Health Department, and are given on demand.

Disinfection of the rooms and bedding is carried out in all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis when the patient dies, removes from the district, or enters sanatorium.

Forty-five examinations of sputum were made by Dr. G. Fletcher, 10 of these being positive, and 35 negative.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS OR ACTION TAKEN FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF MATERNAL DEATHS AND CASES OF PUERPERAL FEVER OR PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

(1) ANTE-NATAL.—Abnormal cases go to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester and patients pay according to their means.

Crescent Road Institution, Crumpsall, Manchester, takes Public Assistance cases, and also private paying patients.

Crossley Hospital, near Brook Street, Manchester, takes paying patients.

(2) SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.—No midwife is employed or subsidised by the Local Authority.

There are two midwives on the Register, and both are practising in the District, their patients being mostly insured persons. Other patients are dealt with by or through the Public Assistance Committee at Crescent Road Institution, Manchester.

(3) CONSULTANTS.—Where difficulties arise the patients are sent to Crescent Road Institution, Manchester, or St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

(4) HOSPITAL BEDS.—Ample provision in respect of hospital accommodation is available within easy reach of the District, and no difficulty has arisen in this respect. The Hospitals available are as follows:—St. Mary's Hospital; Crescent Road Institution, Crumpsall; and the Crossley Hospital; all in Manchester. Greenacres Maternity Home, in the Oldham area, according to the circumstances of the case.

SUMMARY OF MILK EXAMINATIONS during 1937.

Sample No.	Cultivation of Bacteria at 37° in 48 hours per 1 cc.	Bacillus Coli present in			Tubercle Bacilli
		1.0 cc.	0.1 cc. of 3 Tubes	0.01 cc. of 3 Tubes	
1	39,500*	Present	1	Absent	...
2	103,500	Present	3	Absent	...
3	25,000	Present	1	Absent	Present
4	49,000*	Present	3	1	...
5	42,000*	Present	3	3	...
6	69,000*	Present	3	3	...
7	101,500*	Present	3	1	Present
8	510,000*	Present	3	3	...
9	24,833*	Present	3	2	Present
10	10,150	Absent	Absent	Absent	...
11	174,500	Present	3	3	...
12	90,500*	Present	3	3	Present

* Out-District Farms.

Four additional samples were taken in connection with No. 3, to ascertain the exact cow giving tuberculous milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

- (1) PATRICK J. WEBB, M.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health (part time) and Medical Attendant to Child Welfare Centre.
- (2) JAMES A. JAMES, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. of Meat and other Foods, R.S.I., Cert. San. Insp. Assn. Exam. Board (whole time).
- (3) JACK BUCKLEY, Cert. S I.B. (whole time).
- (4) DENNIS HOWELLS, Clerk in Health Department (whole time).

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the Failsworth Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

For your information I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1937.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.—The inspection of the District has been systematically carried out under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Housing Acts, 1909-1936.

The Meat Regulations of 1924 have been enforced; all shop windows where meat is sold are now closed, so as to exclude dust and splashings from the heavy road vehicles, etc., and the shops and slaughter-houses regularly visited and inspected.

NOTICES SERVED.—During the year 242 Informal and 377 Statutory Notices have been served on owners, agents or occupiers for the abatement of nuisances.

PAVING OF YARDS.—49 yards have been repaired and relayed with good 2½ in. flags or concrete, finished off to a smooth surface with fall to the drain inlets.

RECONSTRUCTION OF YARD DRAINS.—Seven yard drains and one cellar drain have been reconstructed to the Council's sewer.

During the year the number of premises visited or inspected was 2108, including houses where infectious diseases were notified, factories, workshops, slaughter-houses, offensive trades, cowsheds, milkshops, stables, piggeries, and general premises, etc.

The Tables which follow furnish particulars of the work done by my Department, and indicate the sanitary improvements effected.

Nature of work done.	No. of Cases
Damp premises.....	29
Metal ashbins provided in lieu of defective wood boxes....	2
Additional ashbins provided in District	176
Metal ashbins renewed	333
Choked drains or water-closets cleared	27
Drains amended or re-constructed.....	14
Defective sanitary fittings repaired or renewed	35
Sink waste pipes renewed or repaired	27
Leaky roofs repaired	34
Premises with gutters, fallpipes, etc., repaired or renewed	39
New ventilating shafts erected... ..	1
Yard surfaces repaired.....	49
Accumulations or deposits of manure, animal refuse, etc., remedied.....	6
Premises where floors have been repaired or renewed	30
Miscellaneous nuisances remedied.....	321
Closet structures repaired	13
Defective W.C. basins replaced.....	2

Total...1138

SMOKE NUISANCE.

During the year efforts have been made to check the excessive emission of black smoke in the District. 35 unofficial observations have been taken with that end in view.

Whenever black smoke has been noticed issuing from any chimney (other than a house) a visit has been paid to the boiler house and works, and attention drawn to the matter; in other cases the firms have either been written to or spoken to on the telephone, with the result that both firemen and employers have recognised the friendly spirit, and done their best to avoid a repetition of the offence.

The appeal made by means of pamphlets in 1929 to all the manufacturers of the District, inviting and asking for their co-operation in the matter, with a view to a united effort being made to abolish the emission of black smoke from factory chimneys, has helped considerably in that direction. These pamphlets pointed out to the manufacturer that in eliminating smoke, not only would he be suppressing what is both a public danger and nuisance, but by the saving of fuel effected he would be conducting his business on sound economic lines.

During the year, circulars have been sent to the firms in the district, encouraging the firemen to attend classes on "Boiler House Practice," at the Manchester College of Technology.

HOUSE CHIMNEY FIRING.—Fifteen cases have been dealt with at the Manchester County Police Court during the year, the total fines amounting to £3 12s. 0d.

SHOPS.

All the occupied shops in the district, numbering 340, have been visited and inspected under the Shops Act, 1934; and, with the exception of six shops which are scheduled for clearance, no action has been necessary.

HOUSING.

The total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) was 672, and the number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, was 132.

The greater portion of the defects in connection with the foregoing were remedied by verbal or informal notice.

At many of the poorer class of house the defects are many, due to lack of attention in initial stages by owners and also occupiers. These assume alarming proportions to an owner when a thorough house-to-house inspection is made of the whole block, and a notice for the whole of the defects served.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—On the occasion of tenants being removed from slum houses to Council houses it is the procedure for this Council to employ a private contractor to disinfest the house, bedding and furniture, before the removal is carried out. Twenty-five houses have been disinfested during the year.

It has not been found necessary to disinfest any Council houses.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the District on which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

A licence was granted to each of the following firms for the keeping of Petroleum, to which the Petroleum Acts apply, each licence being for the duration of 12 months :—

Date.	Firm.	Address.	Business.	Quantity that may be kept.
1937				Gallons
Jan.	Lewis Brothers	6, Park Avenue	Builders.....	500 Petrol
Jan.	Hubron Rubber Chemicals Ltd.	Albion Street	Chemical Mfrs...	250 do.
Feb.	The Clayton Motor Co. .	Beech Garage, Oldham Road	Motor Engineers	2000 do.
Feb.	James Hall.....	1, James Street	Haulage Contractor	500 do.
Feb.	Failsworth Industrial Society.	Newton Heath	General Dealers	1000 do.
Feb.	John Wild	Albert Street	Fruiterer ..	200 Oil 500 Petrol
March	Clayton Bridge Dyeing & Finishing Co.	Millhouses	Dyeworks.....	500 do.
April	United Co-operative Dairies.	2, Broadway	Pasteurisers of Milk.	500 do.
May	The Failsworth Trans- port Engineering Co. Ltd.	Mill Street	Motor Engineers	300 do.
July	Nathan Thompson	Shepley Street	do.	1000 do.
July	William Tomkins	486, Oldham Road ..	do.	100 do.
July	Record Oil & Grease Co.	Beresford Street ...	Oil Merchants ...	500 do.
Aug.	A. O. Ferguson & Co. Ltd.	Windsor Mill... ..	Indiarubber Waterproofers	7000 do.
Aug.	A. O. Ferguson & Co. Ltd.	Windsor Mill	Indiarubber Waterproofers	2500 Naphtha
Aug.	Lot Hilton	Springfield Works...	Laundry and Sponge-Cloth Works	1800 Petrol
Sept.	William Smith	Albert Street	Haulage Contractor	500 do.
Oct.	C. C. McRae Ltd.....	Central Garage, Oldham Road	Motor Engineers	1500 do.
Nov.	Ferguson, Shiers & Co..	Phoenix Mills	Indiarubber Waterproofers	80 do.
Nov.	Do. do.	do.	do.	4000 Naphtha
Nov.	Elah Broadbent.....	31, Wrigley Head ...	Haulage Contractor	500 Petrol
Dec.	G. Wilson & Son	10, Mellor Street ...	do.	250 do.

All the petroleum is kept in separate stores, specially constructed of fire-proof material throughout, and the Regulations otherwise complied with.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—Twenty-two samples of Milk have been taken during the year by the County Authorities, and all were genuine.

One hundred and fifty-six small size tins of full cream milk, which were found to be unfit for the food of man, were voluntarily surrendered by a shopkeeper, and accordingly destroyed.

DAIRY FARMS.—There are 8 Dairy Farms in the district. Much time has been spent during the past year in the inspection of cowsheds, and helping the farmer with friendly advice. I have found that a spirit of tact and friendliness has attained objectives in many cases without having resort to statutory notices.

The Milk and Dairies Order which came into operation on the 1st October, 1926, revokes the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops Order of 1885-1899, and requires registers to be kept of all persons carrying on in their district the trade of cowkeeper or dairyman, and of all farms and other premises within their district which are used as dairies. The Order further deals with the inspection and health of the cattle; general provisions for securing the cleanliness of dairies, lighting, ventilation, water supply, etc., and for protecting the milk against infection and contamination. The cowkeepers are required to take certain precautions during milking, and also with regard to lime-washing and construction of the floors, etc. Cleanliness must be observed in buildings used for the sale, etc., of milk, and of churns and vehicles used for conveyance of milk.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936 :—

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued during 1937 in respect of :—	<p>“ Tuberculin Tested ” milk :</p> <p>(i.) Bottling Nil</p> <p>(ii.) Distribution 1</p> <p>“ Accredited ” milk :</p> <p>(i.) Bottling Nil</p> <p>(ii.) Distribution Nil</p>
No. of licences issued in respect of “ Pasteurised ” milk :—	<p>Pasteurising plants 1</p> <p>Retail Distributors 10</p>

PASTEURISED MILK.—The new and up-to-date buildings, erected in Broadway by the United Co-operative Dairies Limited, have the most modern and efficient machinery capable of producing Bottled Pastuerised Milk of the highest standard.

The buildings cover an area of 1,260 square yards, and have been designed with the single object of housing in a modern and efficient manner the plant for the hygienic production and distribution of Bottled Pasteurised Milk.

Internally, no expense has been spared to ensure the hygienic character of the buildings; walls are built of glazed brick with all corners rounded off; floors are in specially hardened concrete and tiles, and nothing that modern science has brought to the problem of preventing the accumulation of dirt has been overlooked.

A large bulk of the water used in the dairy is obtained from an Artesian Well; this water is pumped into a storage tank having a capacity of 30,000 gallons at the rate of 5,000 gallons per hour.

MILK SHOPS.—There are 44 of these premises in the district, which have been kept well under observation. The milk vessels are kept clean, and the premises, due to frequent inspection, are kept in a cleanly condition.

MEAT.—OBSERVATIONS ON :—

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, which came into operation 1st April, 1925, has made it imperative for all butchers in the district to give at least three hours' notice of intention to slaughter, except where it is the regular practice to slaughter at fixed times on fixed days, as in the case of the Failsworth Industrial Society. No action has been necessary in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify, the butchers in the majority of cases rendering every assistance to the proper inspection of all carcasses and organs.

To carry out the Public Health (Meat) Regulations of 1924 with regard to the inspection of carcasses and their organs it is necessary to spend at least two days in each week at the present time owing to the number of animals slaughtered, which during the period under review have totalled as follows :—

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1041	14	7007	1287
Number inspected	1030	10	6029	1104
Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—

No breaches of the Regulations have occurred in the transport or handling of the meat.

There are 6 licensed slaughter-houses in the District, which are in a good state of repair and cleanliness.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 24 bakehouses in the district, including one in which there is mechanical power. A number of these are really part of a dwelling-house. All of these were frequently visited, and several minor defects found, which were remedied.

No case of food poisoning was reported during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

This Act is administered by the County Police Authorities. Superintendent Webster has kindly furnished the following particulars and results obtained of samples of food, etc., purchased by the Inspectors within this district, and submitted for analysis to the County Analyst :

Milk.....	22	Milk (Tinned)	2
Sausages.....	1	Cheese.....	1
Rice	2	Castor Oil	1
Pepper.....	1	Weak Tincture of Iodine ..	1
Jelly	1	Gravy Browning	1
Butter	2	Sugar	1
Sauce	1	Camphorated Oil	1
Margarine	2	Blackcurrant Jam	1

All the above samples were found to be genuine.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

One hundred and ninety-four fresh water Closets have been installed during the year :—Brompton Avenue, 8; Wimbledon Road, 2; Roman Road, 9; Links Avenue, 13; Stansfield Road, 14; Newton Road, 7; Dalston Avenue, 24; Massey Avenue, 30; Ward Street, 4; Parkside Avenue, 14; Dean Street, 20; Kew Road, 2; Mersey Road, 4; Woodford Road, 12; Mather Street, 10; Tatchbury Road, 2; Maple Grove, 2; Gas Street, 1; James Street, 1; Minor Street, 1; Oldham Road, 1; Windsor Mill, 2; Wagstaff Fold Farm, 1; Morton Street, 4; Jesmond Street, 8; Hobson Street, 1.

The following table shows the approximate number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the close of the year :—

CLOSETS.	Houses and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories & Workshops	TOTALS
Cesspool closets .....	...	...	8	8
Privy-midden closets	25	...	...	25
Pail-closets	79	...	32	* 111
Fresh water-closets	5286	188	444	5918
Waste water-closets	158	...	..	158
	5548	188	484	6220
REFUSE RECEPTACLES.				
Cesspools .....	...	...	1	1
Privy-middens (covered) ...	12	...	...	12 }
„ „ (uncovered) ..	2	...	...	2 } 14
Dry ashpits (covered)	3	...	...	3
Metal ashbins	5319	59	3	5381 }
Wood ashboxes	60	...	..	60 } 5441
	5396	59	4	5459

* Thirteen of these Pails are temporary, namely :—

Lodge Farm Caravan	1
Caravans at rear of Alfred Street	1
Caravans at Adamson's Farm	1
Caravans in field, end of Clive Road	10

CONVERSIONS :—

		During year 1937	During 5 years 1932-1936
No. of privy closets—To fresh W.C.'s.....		Nil	Nil
„ „ To waste W.C.'s		Nil	Nil
„ „ To pails, etc.		Nil	4
No. of pail closets—To fresh W.C.'s.....		2	20
„ „ To waste W.C.'s		Nil	Nil
No. of waste W.C.'s to fresh W.C.'s.....		13	8
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles...		Nil	Nil

NIGHTSOIL AND REFUSE REMOVAL.

Table showing number of receptacles emptied monthly.

1936	No. of Weeks	Ashpits	Privy Middens	Ashbins	Loads	Pails	Cess- pools	Barrels
January.....	4	3	20	21304	286	476	1	13
February	4	3	20	21224	286	476	1	13
March	4	6	24	21064	285	448	2	14
April	5	3	24	26110	339	560	1	16
May	4	6	24	21764	296	448	2	14
June	5	3	24	26620	352	560	1	16
July	4	6	24	21278	284	447	2	14
August.....	4	3	20	20344	270	444	1	13
September ...	5	6	24	21678	260	560	2	16
October.....	4	3	20	21281	210	451	1	9
November ...	4	3	20	21421	214	454	1	9
December ...	5	6	28	27431	288	570	2	12
Totals in 1937.	52	51	272	271519	3370	5894	17	159
Totals in 1936.	53	54	278	278273	3745	6307	18	175

A 20-h.p. "Vulcan" Refuse Collector, with all metal body of $6\frac{1}{2}$ cubic yard capacity has been purchased during the year, which, along with a horse team and an extra team working part of the week, carries out the work of refuse collection admirably. Four loaders and one driver are employed on the "Vulcan" Freighter, and one driver and loader are employed on the horse and cart in the emptying of ashbins, ashpits and pails; a special barrel or tumbler cart is used for the removal of night-soil from the pail closets.

The extra horse team is employed four mornings each week in the emptying of ashbins and is engaged the rest of the week in the cartage of covering material to the Broadway Tip.

The night-soil is discharged down a specially built chute to the sewer. The chute is flushed with a hose-pipe (which is connected to a standpipe) after each discharge, and as the inside walls of the chute consist of white glazed bricks, no smell or evidence of the night-soil is visible after the hose-pipe has been turned on.

HOUSE REFUSE.—This is disposed of by what is known as Controlled Tipping; low-lying land is being filled up, which will ultimately become an asset to the district in the shape of playing fields or recreation grounds.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JAS. A. JAMES,

Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDICES.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1937 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.	
								Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births		
											Number	Rate
1932	15,830	212	13'3	101	6'38	...	58	18	84	159	10'0
1933	15,800	189	11'9	129	8'1	...	81	16	84	210	13'2
1934	16,370	210	12'8	111	6'8	2	74	8	38	185	+11'3
1935	16,740	245	14'6	117	6'9	3	88	11	44	205	12'2
1936	16,990	243	14'3	108	6'3	1	76	12	49	184	10'8
1937	17,370	272	15'6	118	6'7	3	104	19	69	222	12'7

Area of District in Acres (land and inland water) ... 1,072

Total population at all ages, at census of 1931.....15,724

TABLE II.

*Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1937.
Compiled from Local Returns.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF RESIDENTS, WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upw'rds
All causes { Certified	222	19	3	3	3	11	23	64	96
{ Uncertified .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup.....	3	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	6	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease.....	22	...	...	...	...	...	2	10	10
Rheumatic Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Organic Heart Disease	47	...	...	...	...	1	4	11	31
Bronchitis	11	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	5
Pneumonia (all forms).....	17	6	1	...	1	2	1	4	2
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	7
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease...	10	...	...	...	...	2	...	4	4
Puerperal Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Premature Birth ..	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4
Suicide	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Other Defined Diseases	54	3	1	1	1	2	4	13	29
Diseases ill-defined or unknown..	15	...	...	...	...	1	2	8	4
TOTALS.....	222	19	3	3	3	11	23	64	96

TABLE III.
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE.
Causes of Death, 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.
All causes.....	105	117
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	...	...
Measles.....	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...
Influenza	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	1	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...
Syphilis.....	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases.....	2	...
Gen. Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis .....	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	16	14
Diabetes .....	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	2	4
Heart Disease.....	26	36
Aneurysm.....	2	...
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	8
Bronchitis	5	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	5	7
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	...
Peptic Ulcer.....	1	...
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years).....	3	1
Appendicitis.....	1	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...
Other Diseases of Liver, &c.....	...	1
Other Digestive Diseases	2	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	6	3
Other Puerperal .....	...	1
Congenital Debility, &c.	3	4
Senility	3	3
Suicide	2	1
Other Violence	3	4
Other Defined Diseases.....	5	12
Causes, ill-defined or unknown	1	...
Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.		
Legitimate	9	6
Illegitimate	1	3
Live Births—Legitimate	136	126
Illegitimate	3	7
Stillbirths Legitimate	7	5
Illegitimate... ..	...	...

Population ... 17,370.

TABLE IV.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1937.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age. Compiled from Local Returns.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All causes	Certified	6	...	...	1	7	2	6	3	1	19
	Uncertified .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria and Croup.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Tuberculous Meningitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>).....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Convulsions .....	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3
{	Laryngitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pneumonia (all forms) .....	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	1	...	6
{	Diarrhœa .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Enteritis .....	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	3
{	Gastritis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Syphilis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Rickets .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Suffocation, overlying .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Injury at Birth .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Atelectasis.....	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{	Congenital Malformations .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Premature Birth	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{	Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Causes	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
TOTALS.....		6	...	...	1	7	2	6	3	1	19

Nett Births in the year—legitimate, 262 ; illegitimate, 10.

Nett Deaths in the year of—legitimate infants, 15 ; illegitimate infants, 4.

TABLE V.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1937
OF RESIDENTS WHO DIED OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF RESIDENTS, OCCURRING WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and up- wards
All causes { Certified	104	15	2	2	1	7	16	28	33
{ Uncertified.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis).....	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Tuberculous diseases.....	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease...	11	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	4
Rheumatic Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Organic Heart Disease	11	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	6
Bronchitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	10	4	..	...	...	1	1	2	2
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs..	3	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis.....	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Partu- rition	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4
Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Defined Diseases.....	28	2	1	1	1	1	3	6	13
Diseases ill-defined or unknown...	8	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	2
TOTALS	104	15	2	2	1	7	16	28	33



